

# LESSONS LEARNED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL EMISSION ESTIMATES FOR OPEN BURNING

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### Open Burning Source Categories

- Residential Burning municipal solid waste (MSW) or household waste;
- Residential Burning yard waste;
- Land Clearing Debris Burning;
- Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste Burning.

### Open Burning EI Projects

- Developed county-level open burning inventory for nation for EPA's NEI
- ➤ For TNRCC, open burning emissions for 16 counties developed using State-specific data, adjustments for RE
- For MANE-VU, performed scoping study and developed survey methods and recommendations to obtain activity data



### TNRCC General Approach

- ➤ For residential burning, developed State-specific per capita waste generation rates as basis of activity, surveyed local officials on enforcement of open burning rules in their jurisdictions to estimate rule effectiveness.
- ➤ For land clearing debris burning, used NEI method, but obtained more representative local data to use as basis for acres of land cleared.



### MANE-VU General Approach

- Determine where local prohibitions exist for open burning;
- Develop lists of local agencies to survey regarding local open burning activity (e.g., local fire, environmental, or health departments);
- ➤ Develop surveys to gather: 1) open burning acitivity data (where it is allowed); and 2) information to estimate rule effectiveness (where it is prohibited).

## MANE-VU General Approach (cont.)

Perform a pilot survey to test each survey instrument on whether:

1. the questions are reasonable and gather the needed responses; and

2. the contact list itself needed to be revised.



### Controlled Open Burning

 States may have rules that prohibit open burning of household waste if municipal trash collection service (MTCS) available

- > MTCS may vary:
  - by town within a county, and even
  - by area within a town.
- Significant effort required to characterize MTCS at the RPO level.



### Controlled Open Burning (cont.)

- ➤ For areas where open burning is prohibited, uncontrolled emissions should be adjusted for CE, RE, and RP.
  - Residential waste burning, the CE is 100 percent (i.e., a ban)
  - Land clearing burning, the control may be an air curtain destructor
- > Determine the extent of noncompliance, or RE.
- Exemptions from the regulation should be identified to establish RP.



### MANE-VU Test Survey Results

- Residential MSW survey:
  - √ #households burning,
  - ✓ frequency, but not amount.
- > Residential yard waste survey:
  - √ #households burning,
  - ✓ estimated dimensions,
  - ✓ seasonality of activity.

### MANE-VU Test Survey Results (cont.)

- > Land clearing debris burn permits:
  - **x** information on burn quantities,
  - **×** information on waste composition.
- Construction & demolition waste burn permits:
  - \* no information on burn quantities,
  - \* no information on waste composition.

### MANE-VU Test Survey Results (cont.)

- ➤ RE survey performed when a respondent indicated that a rule existed in their area:
  - ✓ EPA guidance for estimating RE was followed in developing the survey instrument;
  - ✓ RE estimated for each category was about 40 percent;
  - ✓ Revisions to the survey were made, including the request of # violations:

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RE = (Number of anticipated burns - Number of violations)
(Number of anticipated burns)
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#### Recommended EI Methods

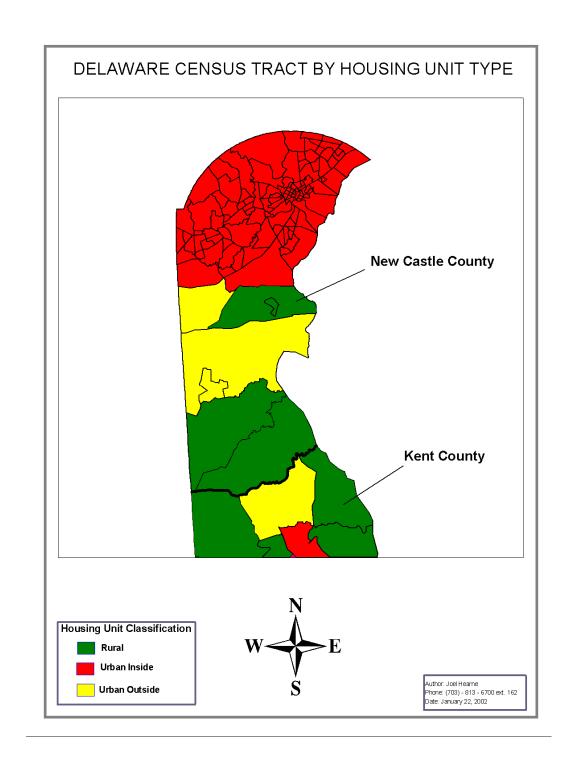
#### > Residential MSW and Yard Waste:

- Use survey data to develop activity estimates number of households that burn, frequency, mass (or volume), and timing (season);
- Characterize activity for households in different RPO regions (e.g., state-level differences, urban vs. rural);
- Apply the activity and RE estimates to BOC data on households.



### 1990 Census Block Group Housing Unit Data for New Castle County, Delaware

							Nu	ımber of l	ber of Housing Units		
STATE FIPS	CNTY FIPS	CNTY NAME	PLACE	PLACE NAME	TRACT	BLOCK GROUP	Urban Inside	Urban Outside	Rural Farm	Rural Non-Farm	
10	003	New Castle	01400	Arden village	0111	1	9	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01400	Arden village	0111	2	37	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01400	Arden village	0111	3	193	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01530	Ardencroft village	0111	2	109	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01660	Ardentown village	0111	1	120	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01660	Ardentown village	0111	3	13	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01660	Ardentown village	011204	1	0	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	01660	Ardentown village	011204	2	0	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	04650	Bellefonte town	0105	3	14	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	04650	Bellefonte town	0106	1	272	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	04650	Bellefonte town	0106	2	237	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	19730	Delaware City	0164	3	0	0	0	0	
10	003	New Castle	19730	Delaware City	0165	1	0	0	0	359	
10	003	New Castle	19730	Delaware City	0165	2	0	0	3	296	





### Recommended EI Methods (cont.)

- Land Clearing Debris Burning:
  - Use NEI as the basis for activity;
  - Survey of state agencies to identify more highly resolved construction activity;
  - Provide sub-county allocation via application of state agency information; or
  - net increase of housing units at the census tract level between the 1990 and 2000 census (e.g., excluding highly urbanized areas).



### Recommended EI Methods (cont.)

#### Construction & Demolition Debris Burning:

- ✓ Using per capita values for C&D debris generation from Franklin Associates report, develop top-down estimates with emission factors for structural fires.
- Bottom-up calculation of emissions for areas with C&D debris burning permit data (few areas); or
- Develop local case studies and scale up to larger areas; or
- Local surveys of C&D contractors (only recommended in areas where activity is thought to be significant).